Evans and Reeves

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Hugh Evans

There is an enchanting garden where a great collection of fine plants from all the far-flung quarters of the world are growing and thriving and flowering as if they were not exiles from their native land so far away.

Here on sun-drenched slopes are all those gay and charming shrubs from West Australia, various Grevilleas, Banksiis, etc., etc., far too many to mention, and living happily in company with them are the sunlovers from North and South Africa and the Mediterranean regions together with some of the best of our own natives such as Matilija Poppy, the yellow tree Poppy (Dendromecon), Ceanothus, etc. All the above require hardly any care to speak of for the first year, enough water to get them started, and then only an occasional watering once or twice during the summer depending on the weather.

Here further along are all the beautiful flowering plants from Mexico, Central and South America which for the most part like a more liberal fare both in the matter of soil and water than the first mentioned subjects. Growing among them in both areas are the noble flowering trees from the various regions in question, tall weeping Callistemons, the dwarfer, flowering Eucalyptus; Jacaranras, Tipuanas, various Erythrinas (Coral trees), and many, many others

In still another area is a marvelous collection of Succulents. Cactaceae, Aloes and all that limitless host of interesting and colorful subjects from Africa, Mexico, Arizona and South America. We wander on and come on a different scene entirely. Here sheltered by the branches of trees which do not cast too dense a shade are rare and stately Araliads and tropical foliage plants from all parts of the world, the bold and striking Meryta, Trevesias, and countless others. This part of the garden is cool and traversed by a stream, and here too are appliances for cooling the air and moistening the foliage if necessary in hot weather. Here are Camellias in infinite variety, Azaleas, Rhododendrons and many other moisture loving plants from New Zealand, Chile, Tasmania, China, Japan, and The Evans & Reeves

Los Angeles

Grape by the

VOL. 5

JULY-AUGUST, 1954

NO. 2

IT'S TIME FOR B

BOUGAINVILLEA, HIBISCOS, JOLEANSER DEMORE PERENNIALS, QUICK-COLOR, HOT-WEATHER ANA NUALS, AND A SHARP EXE ON COMPANIAL OF AST COURSE.

More outstanding every season is the new Bougain-villea Rose Queen, an Evans and Reeves introduction of two years ago. Orange Glory remains the best bronze, San Diego and Barbara Karst in the true reds—all \$1.50, one gallon; \$4.50, five gallon; \$17.50, 15 gallon.

Outstanding **Hibiscus** varieties which have come into flower since the last Grapevine include the exquisite pinky-apricot **Luna**, extremely large-flowered and frilled; **Mrs. Lowery**, soft, light orange with shell pink center, a slightly deeper version of Luna; **Jane Evans**, deep saffron yellow with recurved petals; **Bride**, very pale pink. All \$4.

Among perennials of importance at this season is one of particular grace and line value: Gaura lindheimeri, white bird-like flowers tipped with pink on slender wand-like spikes two and one-half feet in clumps as wide, 85 cents and \$4. Penstemon are still in full bloom, red, white, pink; 85 cents; Aster frikarti will produce its large lavender daises until late fall; 85 cents; Again we remind you of Japanese Anemone for August- to-October color in some shade; 85 cents; and Zephyranthes, like white Autumn crocus only evergreen, also 85 cents. Another old timer we again suggest for the allyear cutting flower: Gaillardia, the Basket flower, either yellow-and-red or all yellow. The two-toned one is the longer bloomer.

Quick color from **annuals** can still be achieved by planting **Celosia**, **Cockscomb**, **red Salvia**, **Aster**, **Zinnia** and **Marigold**; all 40 cents a dozen.

Gone is the season of cool fog and overcast mornings, so Maintenance now means deep watering, some kind of top mulch (have you seen red-brown crushed lava at only \$1 a large bag?) for insulation. Frequent overhead syringing of foliage will discourage thrip and spider mite as well as the coating of dust. But if these pests do appear, try 50 percent Malathon. Another point—constant watering and fast growing leach or use up available nitrogen from the soil. So, you can hurry along many slow growing plants by feeding lightly every two weeks with a medium nitrogen fertilizer. Blooming materials will probably need superphosphate for maximum performance.

Arresting in the **succulent** sections at this season are magnificent **Kalanchoe beharensis** from \$4.50 to \$47.50; **K. orgyalis** which repeats the coloring of the former on an altogether smaller scale, \$1.75; the two foot, flat-sided, gray **Crassula falcata** with big heads of orange-red flowers, \$1.75; and fine hanging baskets of

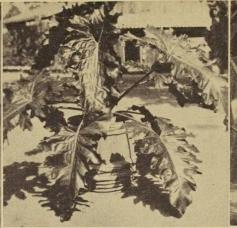
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It's Time For . . .

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Graptoveria Gray Ghost, \$12.50, really spectacular.

Shrubs and trees of special design value now in good supply are the most invaluable of deciduous trees, Koelreuteria (Chinese Rain), three species, \$4 up; Tilia Americana. the American linden, a large-leaved deciduous tree for a moist situation, \$5; Persea indica (Red Bay), a handsome rigid-leaved small evergreen effective for formalized plantings, \$4.50; Thevetia thevetioides, large, open, tropical shrub with full trusses of extremely showy funnel-shaped yellow flowers, \$6; Ficus bengalensis, the true banyan of the tropics for its glossy large green leaves, sun or shade; Lonicera nitida, bush honeysuckle, for its tiny, evergreen, stiff-ranked leaves, valuable for oriental effects or small-scale detail, \$1 a gallon; and the amazing structure of Solanum pyracanthum, a very open little shrub with stiff felt-like gray-green leaves sprouting orange thorns and violet flowers; \$4, five gal-

July is the high point of Fuchsia bloom and this year our **FUCHSIA FESTIVAL BEGAN JULY 15.** Never have we offered such a quantity of sizes and varieties for 60 cents in four-inch pots; \$1, one gallon; \$3.50 and \$5 in five gallon cans; \$7.50 and \$10 in baskets.

Newer Fuchsia names which we suggest you come in and get acquainted with include Starling, Polar Sea, Blossom Time, Bewitched, Enchanted, Blue Petticoats (outstanding light blue and pale pink), and Old Smokey. One of the best for much sun is an old timer—Display. If you like species Fuchsias we have Isis, Virgata, Arborescens and Corymbiflora. If you always wanted a big red and white double like Catalina for a Basket, try Swingtime. Salmon and orange lovers will still find the fine old Aurora Superba, G. Boustedt and Koralie.

VARIATIONS ON THE THEME, SELLOUM!

PHILODENDRONS LIKE OUTDOOR LIVING TOO

It seems just a year or two ago that the giant Brazilian Philodendron selloum (see cover illustration) first became available for general planting. And yet in that short space of time thousands of these hardy Philodendrons have taken a prominent and highly decorative place in coastal plantings. It might be said that P. selloum filled a very definite need so widespread has been its acceptance as key plant to enhance not only contemporary residence but exclusive shop or splendid hotel. Indeed we have passed so quickly from a period of extreme scarcity to one of great abundance in P. selloum that we feel compelled to urge some restraint in the application of this admittedly excellent plant lest it be over used to the degree that it loses much of its distinction.

Fortunately for the tropical planting enthusiasts and the modern designers who have achieved such striking effects with the use of these bold plants in the contemporary scene, several new Philodendron species and hybrids offering variations on the theme are now making their appearance. Latest contributions to the hardy giant Philodendrons are not only significant because of their own individual character but offer us also the opportunity to add a little variety when inter-planted with P. selloum for example.

Using P. selloum (with maximum four foot leaves) as a reference point the new relatives may be described as follows: **Philodendron bipinnatifidum**, about equal in scale and rapidity of growth to selloum with similarly divided but somewhat less ruffled leaves, the leaf segments narrower and more widely separated, with rather prominent red veination. This species seems to carry its leaves much more erect than selloum and so far has taken exposure to the sun equally well. Cold tolerance considered to be roughly equivalent to that of selloum.

Philodendron Fosterianum, developed by Mr. Mulford Foster of Orlando, Florida, is a hybrid comparable to P. selloum and P. bipinnatifidum and yet quite distinct in leaf detail as may readily be seen when comparing mature plants of these three varieties. P. Fosterianum also has a very strong upright growth which in many situations is far more desirable than the rather sprawling tendency of P. selloum. In our experience P. Fosterianum will not tolerate the same sun intensity however as P. selloum, and we think the plant will be at its best if given afternoon shade.

P. undulatum, still in the self-heading or arborescent class, is an entire leaf species, in other words the leaves are solid, without perforations or indentations, somewhat in the manner of the "Elephant Ear." This Philodendron is considerably smaller than the preceding and grows proportionately slower but in time makes an extremely handsome subject with plenty of rich green leaves about two and a half feet long. Not at its best in hot sun, P. undulatum is apt to find its best use in locations where the very size of its giant companions might rule them out. This species is as yet rather scarce in Southern California although it may be expected to become generally available within a year or two.

Philodendron Evansii, our own hybrid, introduced about three years ago and only now beginning to develop its mature character, belongs back in the giant group. The huge, entire leaves of this hybrid attain a length of between four and five feet and are well ornamented with both scallops and

Sitting for portraits (from left to right) are Philodendron bipinnatifidum (\$8, five gallon can); P. Fosterianum (\$8, five gallon can); P. undulatum (not yet available); P. Evansii (\$8, five gallon can); Monstera deliciosa (from \$5 up).

Hugh Evans

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the various rain forest regions of the world. Tree ferns, most striking of which is Cyathea medullaris with its coal black trunk and stems, and Palms tower up into the sky, and underneath growing in the humus which they love are such jewels as Lapageria, Mitraria, etc. On the edge of this section where the light is strong are such terrestrial orchids as Cymbidiums, Epidendrums and Sobralias, I had almost forgotten the flowering vines, the noble Beaumontia with its white chalices of flowers, Bianonias and Bougainvilleas of almost every shade and hue make an unforgetable picture. Indeed it is impossible to give any adequate description of the charms of this garden. I could never tire of wandering there, drinking in the beauty of form and color in a sanctuary so tranquil and serene in a world gone mad.

Alas, that I visit this garden only in my dreams.

ruffles around the edge. P. Evansii seems to take the sun almost as well as P. selloum and is proving a handsome and useful exotic either in solitary splendor or in combination with any of the above. Now available in some quantity.

Other arborescent species and hybrids will be putting in an appearance over the next several years we feel sure, and we will bring them to your attention as they become available. We must also say a word or two about Monstera deliciosa, an old-timer, but none the less thoroughly effective giant Philodendron which belongs in a climbing rather than an arborescent class and may therefore compliment the self-standing types as a wall covering or vining silhouette.



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